

## Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 /015 W  
-----251212 042210/15

R 250809Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5710

CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 2656

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PINR, OVIP, JA  
SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

REF: STATE 037306

1. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION  
REQUESTED REFTEL. IT IS INTENDED TO SUPPLEMENT DATA  
WHICH DEPARTMENT ALREADY HAS.

2. BUNROKI YOSHINO, DEPUTY VICE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS: YOSHINO'S CHANCES FOR APPOINTMENT AS  
NEXT VICE MINISTER, TOP BUREAUCRATIC JOB IN MOFA, SEEM  
TO HAVE DIMINISHED WITH ACCESSION OF THE FUKUDA CABINET.  
OTHER DEPUTY VICE MINISTER, KEISUKE ARITA, IS CONSIDERED  
CLOSER TO PRIMIN AND, THEREFORE, MORE LIKELY TO RECEIVE  
APPOINTMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, YOSHINO MAY BECOME NEXT  
AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

AS DEPUTY VICE MINISTER, YOSHINO HAS MANAGED  
ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND ARITA POLITICAL ONES. HE IS  
CREDITED WITH SUCCESS IN HELPING COORDINATE ADVANCED  
NATIONS' ECONOMIC POLICIES AND ORCHESTRATING MOFA  
APPROACH TO NORTH-SOUTH QUESTIONS AND DIALOGUE WITH ASEAN.

3. MICHIIYA MATSUKAWA, VICE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL  
AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FINANCE: MATSUKAWA'S PERSONAL-  
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ITY IS MUCH MORE OUTGOING THAN IS COMMON AMONG JAPANESE.  
HE GETS ALONG WELL WITH AMERICANS AND APPEARS TO LIKE  
THEM. HE IS, HOWEVER, REGARDED AS CAUTIOUS "TEAM  
PLAYER" WHO DEPENDS ON BUREAUCRACY TO MAKE DECISIONS.  
HE SEEMS TO BE LESS STRONG-WILLED AND INDEPENDENT THAN  
SOME OF HIS PREDECESSORS AS VICE MINISTER FOR INTER-  
NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

4. HISASHI OWADA, PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PM FUKUDA:

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: 1955: ENTERED MOFA

1965: ASSIGNED MOSCOW

1968: ASSIGNED UN/NEW YORK

1971: SECRETARY TO FONMIN  
TAKEO FUKUDA

1972: DIRECTOR, POLITICAL  
AFFAIRS DIV, UN  
BUREAU, MOFA

1974: DIRECTOR, TREATIES DIV,  
TREATIES BUREAU,  
MOFA

12/76: PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PM  
FUKUDA

ASSESSMENT: WHEN OWADA WAS AT CAMBRIDGE STUDYING  
LAW ON ASSIGNMENT BY MOFA, HIS TUTOR APPEALED TO JAPANESE  
AMBASSADOR IN LONDON FOR EXTENSION ON GROUNDS OWADA WAS  
MOST BRILLIANT STUDENT HE HAD EVER HAD. OWADA HAS  
LIVED UP TO THAT DESCRIPTION: HIS LOGICAL PRECISION IS  
COMBINED WITH SURE GRASP OF THE BUREAUCRATIC AND POLITI-  
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CAL FACTORS AFFECTING ISSUES HE MANAGES. HE THINKS IN  
STRAIGHTFORWARD, "WESTERN-STYLE" WAY: HE DOES NOT  
DISSEMBLE. THESE QUALITIES BROUGHT OWADA JOB OF  
PRIVATE SECRETARY TO TAKEO FUKUDA WHEN HE WAS FONMIN IN  
1971. FUKUDA SELECTED HIM AS ONE OF HIS PRIVATE  
SECRETARIES WHEN HE BECAME PRIMIN IN 1976. OWADA SEEMS  
SURE TO ADVANCE FURTHER: HE IS WIDELY REGARDED IN MOFA  
AS MOSTLIKELY TO RISE TO ONE OF TOP CAREER POSITIONS.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO02656  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Message ID:** 2cec0fcf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 37306  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3399069  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SUPPLEMENTAL BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION  
**TAGS:** PINR, OVIP, PDIP, JA, US, (YOSHINO, BUNROKU)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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